

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/910,848

Examiner

CUONG H. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

ITO, SATOSHI

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/08/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
CUONG H. NGUYEN  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3661

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#### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the amendment received on 11/08/2004.
2. Claims 1-17 are pending.

#### Drawing

3. This application is filed with 32 sheets of formal drawings on 7/24/2001, and they are accepted by the examiner.

#### *Allowable Subject Matter & Reasons for Allowance*

4. Independent claims 1, 8, and 15 are patentable over the closest references from Kuribayashi et al., (US Pat. 6,334,115), Doyle et al. (US Pat. 5,694,551), and ISO TC184/SC4/WG2N 376, because these prior art do not anticipate nor fairly and reasonably teach a method/a determination device/a medium storing a program with instructions for accepting and processing an application for conformity of a supplier dictionary using a computer system, said standard dictionary, which is used for an electronic catalog of a component, having a classification hierarchy consisted of a component class related to a tree structure and a property of the component class, comprising a step/component/instruction of:

- determining a charge level according to the conformity level and the license level included in said application data if the supplier dictionary is intended for open to public.

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5. Claims 2-7, 16, and 9-14, 17 are allowed because they are dependent on claims 1, and 8.

**Conclusion**

6. Claims 1-17 are patentable.

7. Claims 8, 9, 15-17 are renumbered as claims 9, 15, 17, 8, and 16 (in that order).

8. These following references are related to claims' subject matters; however, their subject matters and scopes are not analogous with this pending invention:

- Bowman-Amuah, US Pat. 6,571,282 - 5/27/2003.
- Mikurak, US Pat. 6,606,744 - 8/12/2003, US class. 705/26, 717/174,178.
- Wyman, US Pat. 5,438,508 - 8/01/1995, US class. 705/8,26,59.
- Tadayuki Kamisaka et al., US Pat. 5,708,960, 1/13/1998.
- Takuya Matsumoto et al., US Pat. 6,763,334 - 7/13/2004, US class. 705/26,27,14 and 709/217.
- Toshiyuki Arai, US Pat. 6,714,920 - 3/30/2004, US class. 705/27,52; 709/217,219 and 707/10.
- Ellen Neuborne, Catalogers: Adapting to soaring costs, USA Today, 2/19/1991, pg. B2.
- John Waggoner, AmEx fees upset catalog retailers, USA Today, 5/29/1991, pg. B2.
- Susan Tompor, Postal rate hike may downsize catalogues, Detroit News, 1/09/1991, pg. H2.

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- Kate Fitzgerald, Catalogers brace for major cutbacks, Advertising Age, 4/15/1991, vol.62, issue 16, pg. 35.
- Esther Dyson, All sides can win with electronic catalogs, ComputerWorld, 4/24/1995. vol. 29, issue 17, pg.37.
- H. Aoe et al., CD-ROM film, musical work, computer program or database contents sales proceeds distribution system..., EP 760505 A2, 3/05/1997.


9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CUONG H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 703-305-4553. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am - 3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Black can be reached on 703-305-8233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is 703-305-7687.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Cuong H. Nguyen*

  
CUONG H. NGUYEN  
Primary Examiner  
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